

A NEW *POECILONOTA* FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (COLEOPTERA: BUPRESTIDAE)

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Abstract.—*Poecilonota viridicyanea* Nelson, NEW SPECIES, is described from southern California. It is compared to its closest relative, *P. bridwelli* Van Dyke.

Key Words.—Insecta, Coleoptera, Buprestidae, *Poecilonota*, southern California

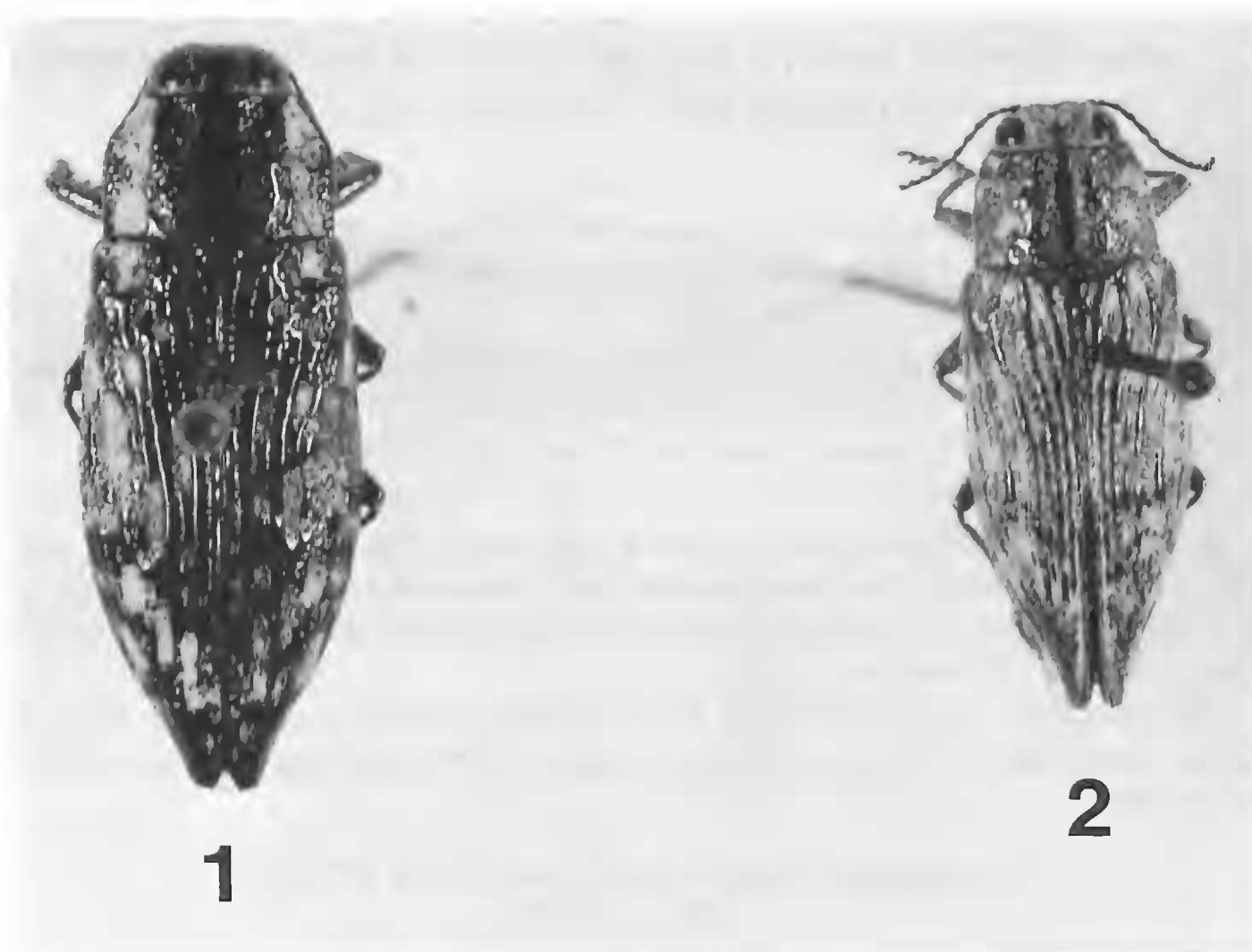
A new species of *Poecilonota*, that is most similar to *P. bridwelli* Van Dyke, and is allopatric with it, has been discovered in desert areas of southern California. It is described here to make it available for a general work on Buprestidae of America north of Mexico.

Abbreviations of collections are as indicated in Arnett et al. (1993). Measurements were made with the use of either a half millimeter scale ruler or an ocular net reticule.

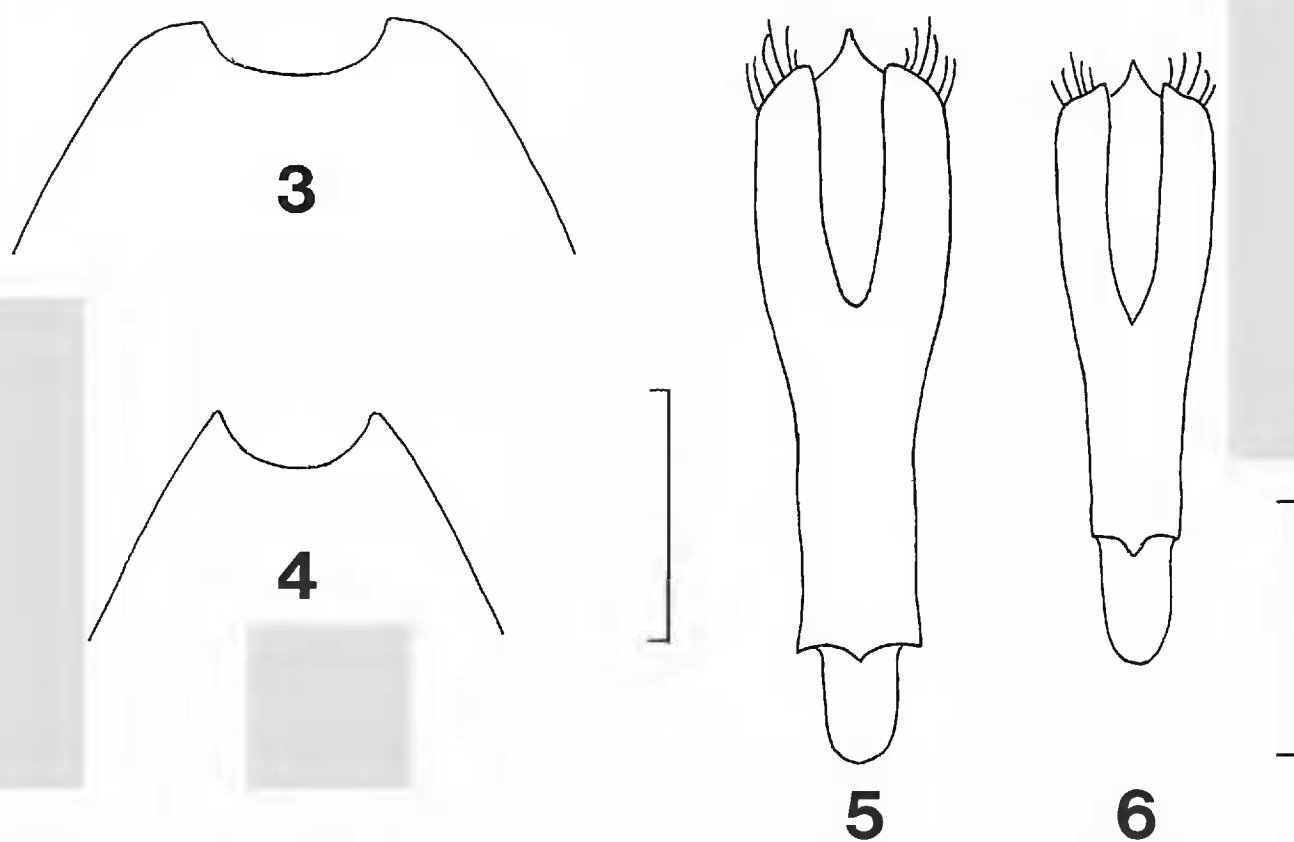
Poecilonota viridicyanea Nelson, NEW SPECIES (Figs. 1, 3, 5)

Types.—Holotype, male; data: CALIFORNIA. SAN BERNARDINO Co.: Yermo, 4 May 1939, J. Helfer, flying near cottonwood; deposited: California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco. Paratypes: data: IMPERIAL Co., Palo Verde, R. A. Flock, reared from "desert willow", wood collected 2 May 1972, emerged 16 May 1972, 1 male; deposited: GHNC; Palo Verde, 6 Jun 1972, D. H. Harris, from willow, 1 male; deposited: GHNC.

Description.—*Holotype, male* (Fig. 1). Size, 15.0 × 5.6 mm. Green-blue above and below with brassy tints at elytral apices. Elongate-oval, moderately transversely convex. *Head.* Frontovortex flattened above, concave below; surface densely, rugosely punctate, punctate areas clothed by semirecumbent white setae; frontovortex with fine midline sulcus on elongate raised carina that bifurcates at midpoint of eyes, bifurcations joining supraantennal ridges to surround concavity; clypeus impunctate, margin shallowly arcuately emarginate; antennae reaching middle of pronotum when laid alongside, serrate from antennomere 4, antennomere 11 elongate-oval and truncate apically. *Pronotum.* Width 1.5 × length; lateral margins expanding from posterior angles in nearly straight line to widest point at middle, then converging in straight line to narrowest point at anterior angles; anterior margin arcuately emarginate with faint median lobe; posterior margin subtruncate with weak median lobe; surface with median 1/3 smooth and impunctate, 1/3 on either side smooth with some moderate sized punctures, lateral 1/3 except for margin densely punctate and clothed with short, semirecumbent, white setae with white pulverulentus. Scutellum transversely cordate, surface glabrous, impunctate. *Elytra.* Length 3.6 × pronotal length, slightly wider at base than pronotum; lateral margins weakly sinuately expanding to widest point at middle then arcuately converging to slightly prolonged obliquely truncate apices; sutural margin diverging near tips; disk with intervals variously raised, intervals 3 and 5 distinctly raised and uninterrupted from basal 1/7 to apical 1/4, others interrupted by finely, densely punctate areas clothed by short, semirecumbent, white setae and pulverulentus. *Ventral side.* Prosternum with disk and process longitudinally concave, concavity finely, densely punctate and clothed with long, curved, slender, white setae, less densely punctate posteriorly, process with smooth, impunctate, raised lateral margins; thoracic sterna more densely punctate laterally, less densely medially, metasternum with midline sulcus, punctate areas clothed by semirecumbent white setae and with pulverulentus laterally; pro- and mesofemora slender fusiform, metafemora more parallel-sided; tibiae



Figures 1–2. Male holotypes, dorsal views. Fig. 1. *Poecilonota viridicyanea*. Fig. 2. *P. bridwelli*.



Figures 3–4. Last visible abdominal sterna. Fig. 3. *P. viridicyanea*. Fig. 4. *P. bridwelli* (line = 1.0 mm).

Figures 5–6. Male genitalia, dorsal views. Fig. 5. *P. viridicyanea*. Fig. 6. *P. bridwelli* (line = 1.0 mm).

straight; abdominal sternum 1 impunctate and longitudinally concave medially; other sterna sparsely punctate medially, all more densely punctate laterally, punctate areas clothed by recumbent white setae; last visible sternum with apex broadly arcuately emarginate, lateral angles rounded (Fig. 3). *Male genitalia* (Fig. 5).

Female.—Unknown.

Diagnosis.—*Poecilonota viridicyanea* is most similar to *P. bridwelli* Van Dyke and will key to that species in Evans (1957). It can, however, be distinguished as follows: it is vivid green-blue in color; the frontovertex of the head has a broad prominent carina; the pronotum has a median impunctate area that is $\frac{1}{5}$ the total width and without a punctate channel on either side (Fig. 1); the prosternum and its process are deeply longitudinally concave; the apex of the last abdominal sternum has the posterolateral angles broad and blunt (Fig. 3); and the juncture of the parameres is rounded (Fig. 5). In *P. bridwelli* the color is dull green to purple; the carina on the frontovertex is narrow and not prominent; the median impunctate area of the pronotum is much less than $\frac{1}{5}$ its total width with a punctate channel on either side of it (Fig. 2); the prosternum and its process are weakly convex; the posterolateral angles of the last abdominal sternum are acute (Fig. 4); and the juncture of the parameres is acutely angulate (Fig. 6).

Variation.—The three males are closely similar. One paratype is the same size as the holotype, the other is 13.8×5.3 mm. The bifurcation of the frontal carina does not join the supraantennal ridges on one paratype.

Distribution.—Known only from Imperial and San Bernardino Counties.

Hosts.—One specimen was reared from “desert willow”, *Chilopsis linearis* (Cav.) Sweet (confirmed by the collector); one was collected on willow, *Salix* sp.; and one was found flying around cottonwood, *Populus* sp. The other species in this genus are associated either with *Salix* or *Populus*, so the rearing from *Chilopsis* is remarkable.

Etymology.—The specific name is derived from the green-blue color.

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